

C L A I M A M E N D M E N T S

The following is a complete listing of all claims ever presented in the present application, including the text of all pending claims and withdrawn claims.

1 - 35 (CANCELED)

36. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) A method of facilitating lottery ticket transactions, comprising:

receiving a request to purchase a lottery ticket for a pari-mutuel lottery game; and

determining a price associated with a lottery ticket having a lottery number combination based on an expected value to a player of the lottery ticket having the lottery number combination.

37. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 36, further comprising:

receiving an indication that the player is to receive a total winning amount even if both the lottery ticket and another lottery ticket win a lottery drawing.

38. (ORIGINAL) The method claim 36, wherein said determining is based on a current winning amount.

39. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 36, further comprising:

receiving an indication that the player is to receive a current total winning amount even if the total winning amount is subsequently adjusted.

40. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 36, wherein the price is independent of a cost of the lottery ticket to a lottery game provider.

41. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method of claim 36, wherein said determining is based on a current popularity of the lottery number combination.

42. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method of claim 36, wherein said determining is based on a past popularity of the lottery number combination.

43. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 36, wherein said determining the price comprises determining a minimum price that subsequent players will be required to provide in exchange for participating in the pari-mutuel lottery game.

44. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 36, wherein said determining the price comprises determining a minimum price that subsequent players will be required to provide in exchange for another lottery ticket having at least that expected value.

45. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method of facilitating a lottery ticket transaction, the lottery ticket being associated with a lottery number combination, comprising:

receiving a request from an operator terminal to purchase the lottery ticket for a lottery drawing;

receiving an indication from the operator terminal that the lottery number combination is to be associated with only a limited number of occurrences for the lottery drawing; and

determining a price associated with the lottery ticket based on the received indication and agreement that not more than the limited number of occurrences of the lottery number combination will be sold for the lottery drawing.

46. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 45, wherein said determining the price comprises:

determining the price based on an expected value associated with the lottery number combination.

47. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 45, further comprising:

outputting an indication of a number of occurrences currently associated with the lottery number combination.

48. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method of facilitating a lottery ticket transaction, the lottery ticket being associated with a lottery number combination, comprising:

receiving from a player a request to purchase the lottery ticket for a lottery drawing;

receiving a request that the lottery number combination will be exclusively associated with only a single lottery ticket for the lottery drawing;

determining the lottery number combination such that the lottery number combination is exclusively associated with only a single lottery ticket; and

preventing the lottery number combination from being associated with at least one additional lottery ticket.

49. (NEW) A method of facilitating lottery ticket transactions, comprising:

receiving a request to purchase a lottery ticket for a pari-mutuel lottery game; and

determining a price associated with a lottery ticket having a lottery number combination based on a number of occurrences that are associated with the lottery number combination.

50. (NEW) The method of claim 49, in which determining a price comprises:

determining a price associated with a lottery ticket having a lottery number combination based on a number of occurrences that are associated with the lottery number combination at a time that the lottery ticket is purchased.

51. (NEW) The method of claim 49, in which determining a price comprises:

determining a price associated with a lottery ticket having a lottery number combination based on a number of occurrences, in which it is known that no more than the number of occurrences will be associated with the lottery number combination by a time of the drawing.

52. (NEW) A method comprising:

receiving, from a lottery terminal at a retail store, a request to purchase a lottery ticket for a drawing in a pari-mutuel lottery;

receiving, from the lottery terminal, an indication that a set of symbols is to be associated with no more than a predetermined number of occurrences with respect to the drawing; and

in response to receiving the indication from the lottery terminal, determining the set of symbols.

53. (NEW) The method of claim 52 wherein the specified number of occurrences is one occurrence.

54. (NEW) The method of claim 52, further comprising:

preventing at least one lottery ticket from being associated with the determined set of symbols.

55. (NEW) The method of claim 52, further comprising:

determining a lottery ticket identifier.

56. (NEW) The method of claim 55, further comprising:

transmitting an indication of the lottery ticket identifier and the determined set of symbols to the lottery terminal.

57. (NEW) The method of claim 52 wherein determining the set of symbols comprises:

determining a set of symbols that has not previously been associated with any occurrences with respect to the drawing.

58. (NEW) The method of claim 57 further comprising:

preventing at least one lottery ticket from being associated with the determined set of symbols.

59. (NEW) The method of claim 52, further comprising:

storing an indication of a price for the lottery ticket.

60. (NEW) The method of claim 59 further comprising:

determining the price based on the specified number of occurrences.

61. (NEW) The method of claim 59 further comprising:

determining the price based on the received indication.

62. (NEW) The method of claim 52 wherein determining the set of symbols comprises:

randomly determining the set of symbols.

63. (NEW) The method of claim 62 further comprising:

verifying that the randomly determined set of symbols has not previously been associated with at least one other lottery ticket for the drawing.

64. (NEW) The method of claim 62 further comprising:
preventing at least one lottery ticket from being associated with the
randomly determined set of symbols.